

STAFF DISCUSSION JOURNAL

Going Deeper

PART 1

Scripture Reflection

As a staff, take a few moments to sit in total silence. Silence is a rare commodity and central to how God speaks with us.

After some time in silence, have one person read the following scripture from the Gospel of Mark Chapter 9 v.42

“If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea.”

Now, take a few moments in silence and then read it one more time.

Questions For Group Discussion:

This scripture is definitely what we would call one of Jesus 'hard sayings' but it seems unambiguous. How do you feel about these words? How do they strike you? What emotions or thoughts do they stir up?

Being as honest as you can with each other, how effective is your school at the moment in terms of the 'lived witness' of staff? What are you doing well as a staff in terms of witnessing the faith to your students? What makes it hard? What practical steps would make it easier?



“Whoever surrenders unconditionally to the Lord will be chosen by him as an instrument for building his kingdom.”

Edith Stein



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PART 2

Take a moment to read aloud the following quote:

"As a visible manifestation of the faith they profess and the life witness they are supposed to manifest, it is important that lay Catholics who work in a Catholic school participate simply and actively in the liturgical and sacramental life of the school. Students will share in this life more readily when they have concrete examples: when they see the importance that this life has for believers."

Lay Catholic in Schools Paragraph 39

What could be done to improve staff participation in the liturgical or sacramental life of the school? How could we make it easier for staff to become more involved ?



"Go forth in peace, for you have followed the good road. Go forth without fear, for he who created you has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Blessed be you, my God, for having created me."
faith

St. Clare of Assisi

STAFF PRAYER

Dear Lord,

We pray this week for the grace of your Holy Spirit to search our hearts to consider our own witness before young people.

We thank you for the ways you have already helped us to live your Gospel before them and ask now for the grace to 'walk our talk' more fully each day.

We know that apart from you we can do nothing and that even the desire to deepen in faith is your gift.

Help us to radiate your love and constancy to young people in a world of broken promises and uncertainty.

We ask this in your name Jesus.

Amen